

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending in the present application. Claims 21-30 are withdrawn from consideration. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the following responsive remarks. For the Examiner's convenience and reference, Applicants' remarks are presented in the order in which the corresponding issues were raised in the Office Action.

In the office action of March 17, 2006, the following actions were taken:

(1) Claims 1-3, 6-18, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson et al. (US Patent Application No. 2005/0174407) (hereinafter "Johnson").

(2) Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson et al. in view of Wells (US Patent No. 3,918,927) (hereinafter "Wells").

(3) Claims 4 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson et al. in view of JP 08319575 A (hereinafter "Takeda").

It is respectfully submitted that the presently pending claims be examined and allowed.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-20 as being unpatentable over Johnson, either alone or in view of Wells or Takeda. Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are patentable over the cited reference.

Regarding Johnson, this reference was not filed before the date of invention by the present Applicants. Johnson was filed on December 3, 2002. Applicants conceived the invention and reduced the invention to practice before December 3, 2002. See Exhibit 1 and Exhibit 2, Declaration of Applicants under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 and accompanying redacted evidence supporting the same. Specifically, Applicants' conception and reduction to practice is evidenced by an invention disclosure made by Applicants to its employer, Hewlett Packard Company. The invention disclosure describes each and every element of the relevant claims. Because Johnson's filing date

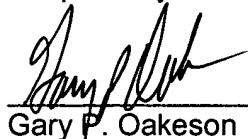
is subsequent to the Applicant's date of invention, Johnson cannot support an obviousness rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). As all claims are rejected using Johnson as the primary reference, withdrawal of all rejections is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that claims 1-20 present allowable subject matter and allowance is respectfully requested. If any impediment to the allowance of these claims remains after consideration of the above remarks, and such impediment could be removed during a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone Gary Oakeson, or the undersigned attorney, at (801) 566-6633 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Please charge any additional fees except for Issue Fee or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



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